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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450, on June 2, 2004.

Signature Theodore J. Leitereg

Date 6/2/04

Name: Theodore J. Leitereg

PATENTS
Docket No. 10004450-1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application: 09/919,073

Inventors: Richard O. Hilson, *et al.*

Group Art Unit: 1743

Filed: July 30, 2001

Examiner: Arlen Soderquist

Title: Sample Processing Apparatus and Methods

Box Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Introductory Comments

This is responsive to the Office Action dated April 8, 2004, from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in the above-identified patent application.

This amendment is submitted in accordance with the "Revised Amendment Practice: 37 CFR 1.121 Changed, Compliance is Mandatory – Effective Date: July 30, 2003."

Please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): Richard O. Hilson, et al.

Serial No.: 09/919,073

Examiner: Arlen Soderquist

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Title: Sample Processing Apparatus and Methods

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR RESPONSE/AMENDMENT

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is/are the following in the above-identified application:

- (X) Response/Amendment () Petition to extend time to respond
() New fee as calculated below () Supplemental Declaration
() No additional fee (Address envelope to "Mail stop Non-Fee Amendments")
() Other: (fee \$)

CLAIMS AS AMENDED BY OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY						
(1) FOR	(2) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	(3) NUMBER EXTRA	(4) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(5) PRESENT EXTRA	(6) RATE	(7) ADDITIONAL FEES
TOTAL CLAIMS		MINUS		= 0	X \$18	\$ 0
INDEP. CLAIMS		MINUS		= 0	X \$86	\$ 0
[] FIRST PRESENTATION OF A MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM					+ \$290	\$ 0
EXTENSION FEE	1ST MONTH \$110.00	2ND MONTH \$420.00	3RD MONTH \$950.00	4TH MONTH \$1480.00		\$ 0
OTHER FEES						\$
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT						\$ 0

Charge \$ 0 to Deposit Account 50-1078. At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-1078 pursuant to 37 CFR 1.25. Additionally please charge any fees to Deposit Account 50-1078 under 37 CFR 1.16, 1.17, 1.19, 1.20 and 1.21. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date of Deposit: June 2, 2004

Typed Name: Theodore J. Leitereg

Signature: 

Respectfully submitted,

Richard O. Hilson, et al.

By 

Theodore J. Leitereg

Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)

Reg. No. 28,319

Date: June 2, 2004